

Cromona Refuse
AML Enhancement Rule Project

Letcher County
Jenkins West GQ
Project Description
November 6, 2009

The proposed AML Enhancement Rule Project (1.98 acres total) consists of the removal of an existing coal refuse pile located along Potter Fork in Letcher County, Kentucky, near the community of Cromona. The project is centrally located at 37° 10' 54" latitude and 82° 42' 6" longitude (See attached map). The refuse pile is currently a source of environmental problems including a potential fire hazard and a source of sedimentation and water quality degradation of Potter Fork.

All coal refuse from the project area will be excavated and trucked to a permitted coal processing facility, Central Appalachian Mining Preparation Plant. Waste materials will be placed at the refuse/waste disposal site at the preparation plant. Access to the work area will be via existing mine bench access roads. Excessive dust on access road surfaces will be controlled by watering equipment. Watering will be limited near public roadway entrances in order to prevent tracking of excessive debris onto the roadways. All refuse removal will occur between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday, unless an emergency warrants a change of scheduled work hours.

The refuse pile will be worked by removal consisting of 5 to 10 foot lifts which will be sloped to the back in order to minimize sedimentation related problems. A 5 foot berm will be used to control any down-slope movement of unconsolidated materials. If deemed necessary, sumps and/or sediment traps, or other sediment control devices such as silt fences and hay bales may be used to control runoff. Upon completion of the refuse removal, prompt vegetation and the establishment of a drainage channel, including structures which reduce flow velocity, will be constructed to control surface drainage and establish natural flow patterns.

The refuse pile, although a previously disturbed area, is currently covered by trees and other vegetation. In order to prevent any takings of the endangered (USESA) Indiana Bat, trees representing potential bat habitat will be removed between November 15 and March 31, with written consent of the DAML Director. Any trees which need to be removed between April 1 and November 14 will require a bat survey by a qualified biologist prior to their removal.

Field inspections have revealed no seepage from the refuse pile. If conditions indicate a potential for water release during removal operations, water will be released in a controlled manner and allowed to bleed off slowly. Sediment structures will be constructed in accordance with DAML design templates, and will remain in place until all disturbed areas have established vegetative cover. The work progression will ensure that run off passes through sediment structures before leaving the project area. No equipment will be operated within a local stream channel(s) without the Division of Water and / or U.S. Corps of Engineers approval.

The project site will be vegetated in accordance with a DAML vegetation plan as soon as possible after removal has commenced. Disturbed areas will be scarified, limed, top-soiled, seeded, and mulched. Top soil may be borrowed from on-site locations in order to establish vegetative cover. The entire work area will be graded to a stable configuration and trees will be planted on the reclaimed site.